Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 01553 141956Z

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ACTION EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 /012 W

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R 141645Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 170

USIA WASHDC

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 1553

VIENNA FOR EWTC AND REX

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP. BU. BE

SUBJECT: US PARTICIPATION PLOVDIV FAIR

- 1. IN MEETING MARCH 13 WITH STAFF OF ILLINOIS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, ARTHUR COMPTON, DIRECTOR, SAID THEIR INTEREST IN PLOVDIV PARTICIPATION HAD GROWN SINCE DIRECTOR EWTC MARTIN HAD BROUGHT IT TO THEIR ATTENTION. COMPTON SEEMED CONFIDENT THAT SOME OFFICIAL ILLINOIS REPRESENTATION WOULD BE POSSIBLE ALTHOUGH FORM DEPENDS ON BUDGET RESTRICTIONS.
- 2. SINCE PLOVDIV HAS NOT BEEN BUDGETED BY STATE, COMPTON HOPED THAT NOMINAL PARTICIPATION FEE WOULD BE AS LOW AS POSSIBLE. IF FEE IS OVER DOLS 1000 COMPTON ASKED IF SOME ARRANGEMENT COULD BE MADE TO ACCOMODATE 3 OR 4 BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES IN OR AROUND CORE EXHIBIT (WITH REDUCED CHARGE SINCE NO EQUIPMENT WOULD BE DISPLAYED). COMPTON AND OTHERS WOULD PREFER TO HAVE SEPARATE EXHIBIT AREA WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF 3 OR 4 SMALLER ILLINOIS FIRMS WHO MIGHT, FOR EXAMPLE, RUN ONE OR TWO SEMINARS ON AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY.
- 3. AGRICULTURAL SPECIALIST IN THE OFFICE, ROBERT ORSBORN, IS RETURNING TO ILLINOIS IN LATE MARCH AND WILL URGE PARTICIPATION BY LARGER COMPANIES (DEERE, INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER, AND CATE-UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 01553 141956Z

PILLAR), IF NOT ALREADY COMMITTED. HE WILL ALSO MEET WITH SMALLER

COMPANIES TO SEE IF STATE EXHIBIT CAN BE MOUNTED. IN ANY EVENT ILLINOIS WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH EWTC AND BEWT AS SOON AS BUDGET QUESTION IS RESOLVED.

4. EUROPEAN MANAGER CLARK EQUIPMENT COMPANY SAID CLARK WAS STILL INTERESTED IN BULGARIA AND THOUGHT PLOVDIV WOULD BE GOOD WAY TO REESTABLISH CONTACTS FORMANT SINCE MID-1973. ALTHOUGN ULTIMATE DECISION ON PARTICIPATION RESTED IN US HEADQUARTERS IN BUCHANAN, MICHIGAN, HE HAD DISCUSSEDFAIR WITH SOME EUROPEAN

DISTRIBUTORS WHO WOULD LIKE TO SHOW SMALL EARTH-MOVING EQUIPMENT PARTICULARLY ADAPTABLE TO AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES. HE WILL MAKE POSITIVE RECOMMENDATION TO HEADQUARTERS BY TELEX MARCH 14 ON ASSUMPTION THEY HAVE BEEN SOLICITED BY LETTER OR PHONE FROM WASHINGTON AGENCIES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 14 MAR 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1974BRUSSE01553 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: BRUSSELS Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740345/aaaabpnk.tel Line Count: 77

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: golinofr Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 31 JUL 2002 **Review Event:**

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <31 JUL 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <01 AUG 2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: US PARTICIPATION PLOVDIV FAIR TAGS: BEXP, BU, BE

To: STATE COM

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005